

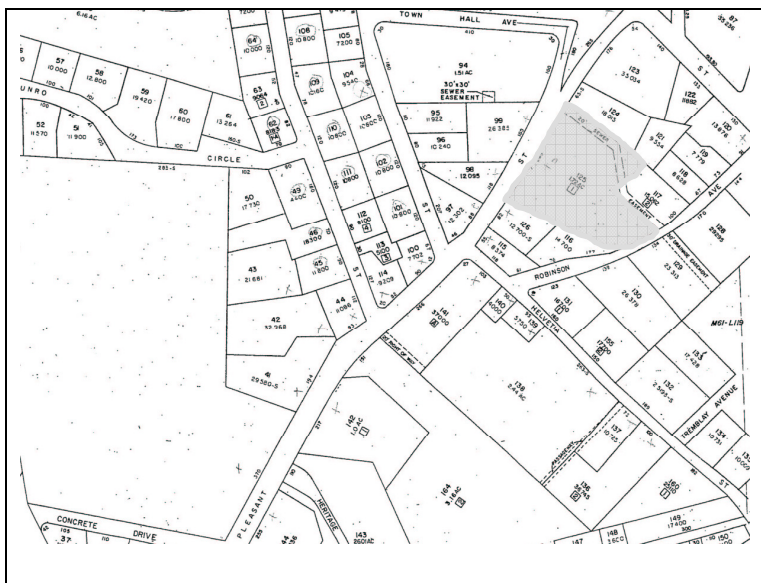
# FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

## Photograph



## Topographic or Assessor's Map



**Recorded by:** Julie Ann Larry

**Organization:** ttl-architects

**Date (month / year):** March 2010

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

47 99

A, E

TEW 03

**Town:** Tewksbury

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*)  
Tewksbury Center

**Address:** 48 Pleasant Street

**Historic Name:** Joel Foster House

**Uses:** Present: Single Family Residential

Original: Single Family Residential

**Date of Construction:** c 1850

**Source:** MACRIS

**Style/Form:** Greek Revival, Italianate

**Architect/Builder:**

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Granite

Wall/Trim: Clapboards/Wood Trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**

Barn

Site of Jefferson Soap Factory (1889-1904)

**Major Alterations (with dates):**

Barn converted to Garage (20<sup>th</sup> Cen.)

**Condition:** Good

**Moved:** no | | yes | | **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Acreage:** 1.72 Acres

**Setting:** Set near the street in a primarily residential area in the village center opposite the municipal buildings.

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

TEWKSBURY

48 PLEASANT STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

TEW.03

\_\_\_ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

*Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.*

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

The house at **48 Pleasant Street** is a rectangular dwelling resting on a granite foundation. The two-and-a-half story dwelling has a side gable roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. Two narrow brick chimneys pierce the ridge of the roof. The walls are clad in wood clapboards. The three by three bay building has a rear (south) ell, shed, and connected barn. Windows are typically 6/6 sash windows with exterior storms, flanked by shutters. The centrally located entrance is a narrow swinging door flanked by sidelights under a transom with a central arch multi-pane fanlight. Sheltering the main entrance is a projecting portico with a flat roof supported by square columns. The one-story rear ell has been expanded vertically by the over a portion of its length. An arbor covered patio is located across the front (west) side of the ell. A second narrow brick chimney projects from the interior of the ell. The connected shed is one story in height with a pedestrian entrance on the door yard side (west). The shed is connected to the two-and-a-half story barn. The side gable barn, converted to use as a garage, features two overhead garage doors on the north elevation and multiple windows on the east, south, and west elevations. Fenestration includes arch sash windows horizontal windows, and double hung sash windows. The barn's roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles and the walls are clad in wood clapboards.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

According to earlier survey forms the house was built c1850. It was altered in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century with Italianate details probably by Perry Jefferson, the owner c1889-1904.

In the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century the house at 48 Pleasant Street was owned by J Foster. Joel Foster, was the brother of Enoch Foster who lived on the opposite side of Pleasant Street on the site of the present Town Hall. Joel and Enoch were furniture manufacturers. The brothers entered the furniture business with Nathan P Cole under the name JE Foster & Co. in 1851. The company name was later changed to Foster & Cole. The brothers also maintained a business interest in California. Joel married his wife Sarah M Gray in 1860. Joel, his wife Sarah, and their children lived in San Francisco in the 1870s. By 1880 the Joel Foster family was living in Methuen, MA. In 1885 Joel Foster sold the house near the corner of Pleasant and Main Street to Charles Goddard. The same year Goddard sold the house to Perry Jefferson.

Jefferson built a soap factory at the rear of the house in 1889 on what is now Robinson Street. The factory produced long bars of dark brown soap for washing. The soap was sold at retail in Lowell until 1904 when the business was sold to the Lowell Rendering Co.

Subsequent owners include: Louis Tremblay (c1974-1986)[ Lewis & Theresa Tremblay 2344/549] and Frank Merino (1986-2010)

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

U.S. Census Records. 1790-1930.  
Directories. 1896-97, 1898-99, 1900-01, 1911-12, 1913-14, 1915-16, 1919, 1927, 1930-31, 1932-33, 1937-38, 1940-41, 1942-1943, 1949 [Ancestry], 1953, 1955, 1961, and 1967.  
Map of the Town of Tewksbury 1852. Henry F Walling. Boston, MA.  
1865 Map of Tewkesbury with inset.  
Atlas of Middlesex County 1875. FW Beers.

*Continuation sheet 1*

Altas of Middlesex County 1889. Geo H Walker & Co.  
List of Residents by Streets, Ages 17 years and over, In the Town of Tewksbury Mass. As prepared by the Board of Registrars (various years 1965-)  
Valuations of the Real and Personal Estate of the Town of Tewksbury.  
North Middlesex County Registry of Deeds.  
\_\_\_\_\_. *Ye Towne Book*. Town of Tewksbury. 1934.  
Patton, Harold J. *Ask Now of the Days that are Past*. Higginson Book Co. 1964.

